STAY HOME
STAY SAFE
SIDDHARTA

STAR OF MYSORE

OUR EVERNING DAILY

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MYSURU Thursday 2nd April 2020
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REDUCE YOUR RISK OF
CORONAVIRUS
INFECTION
Clean hands with soap and water or alcohol-based hand rub
Cover nose and mouth when coughing with tissue or flexed elbow
Avoid close contact with anyone with cold or flu-like symptoms
SOUTHERN STAR

Only five percent of city bakeries open

Despite MCC order to open, bakers cite lack of staff and fresh supplies

Mysuru, Apr.2 (PM,DM&BCT)- Bread, a staple in most city homes, was hard to come by till now due to the lockdown, forcing families to shift to other breakfast options. The situation is set only to improve in another two or three days as bakeries have been allowed to open considering bread, buns and biscuits as essential commodities.

The Mysuru City Corporation yesterday said that bakeries could open in city but imposed many restrictions. They are allowed to open in accordance with COVID-19 lockdown protocol. Permission was granted to sell only bakery items such as bread, biscuits and buns.

They are prevented from selling coffee, tea, fruit juices and other liquid products and they are asked to sell permitted items only through parcels and are told to ensure total hygiene in their vicinity and social distancing by customers. However, a day after the orders were passed, most of the bakeries in city remained closed this morning, even in the heart of the city. Reason: Lack of staff and fresh products.

The lockdown was announced suddenly and the bakeries were asked to shut shop even before they could exhaust stocks. "It has been nine days and we have sent our workers home as the lockdown will be effective till Apr. 14. Suddenly we cannot open. Also, bakery items are perishable commodities and as it was a sudden lockdown, all our items have spoilt now. We need to replace with fresh stocks," said a bakery owner in Vijayanagar First Stage.

Many bakeries in the heart of the city including D. Devaraj Urs Road, Chamaraja Double Road, and Ramaswamy Circle were closed this morning. Some of the bakeries in the outer areas like Sharadadevinagar, Ganesh Bhandar, Saraswathipuram and Kuvempunagar extension areas were open only till afternoon. Even the popular V.B. Bakery near Patashala Circle that is famous for fresh puffs and dil pasands was closed.

(See BAKERIES on page 7)

Nizamuddin Markaz

75 from Mysuru were at Tabligh event

342 from State including 1 from Mandya, 13 from Kodagu, 12 from Chamarajanagar attended Delhi religious gathering in March

Mysuru/Bengaluru, Apr. 2 (MTY&BCT)- The Karnataka Government is on tenterhooks, mounting efforts to track nearly 150 people who are among the 342 from the State who attended the religious congregation of Tabligh-e-Jamaat in Delhi between Mar. 8 and Mar. 20 while the others have been identified and quarantined.

The Government has information that 342 people from the State had attended the event last month in Nizamuddin in Delhi. The gathering had hosted 4,000 people and the event has turned out to be the hotbed of COVID-19 spread in the country. 200 of 342 have been quarantined at various parts of Karnataka.

"Efforts are on to trace out people who attended from the State and their contacts, it is a huge task...we are at it," Home Minister Basavaraj Bommai said, adding he has also appealed for help from the community leaders in this mission. As many as 62 foreign nationals who attended the event have also returned to Karnataka and 50 of them had been quarantined while 12 others had left for their nations earlier, he said.

The Government intensified the search after it emerged that several attendees of the religion event have been affected by COVID-19 and six people had died in Telangana, while one each in Andaman and Nicobar and Karnataka. A 60-year old man who died last week in Tumakuru district had participated in the Delhi meet and tested positive for the infection.

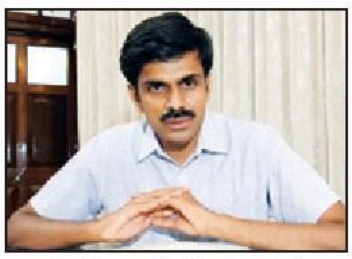
Meanwhile, **Mysuru District Minister V. Somanna has confirmed this morning that 75 persons from Mysuru attended the event.** "62 persons from Mysuru city were there at the Tabligh event and 45 of them have come back to Mysuru and have been kept under home quarantine. **Over 17 persons have not returned to Mysuru** and 13 people from Mysuru rural belt have returned home," he said.

Six people had attended the event from **H.D. Kote**, one person from **Bannur** and one from **Periyapatna** have been put under home quarantine.

(See MARKAZ on page 6)

COVID-19 has not so far reached community spread stage in Mysuru: DC

Mysuru, Apr. 2 (SBD&BCT)- Mysuru Deputy Commissioner Abhiram G. Sankar has stated that COVID-19 has not reached community spread stage in Mysuru. This announcement comes even as 19 people tested positive for the killer Coronavirus in Mysuru so far. Of the 19, 17 cases are from Nanjangud-based pharmaceutical company (Jubilant Generics). Two cases were reported earlier and they had a foreign travel history.



Abhiram G. Sankar, DC

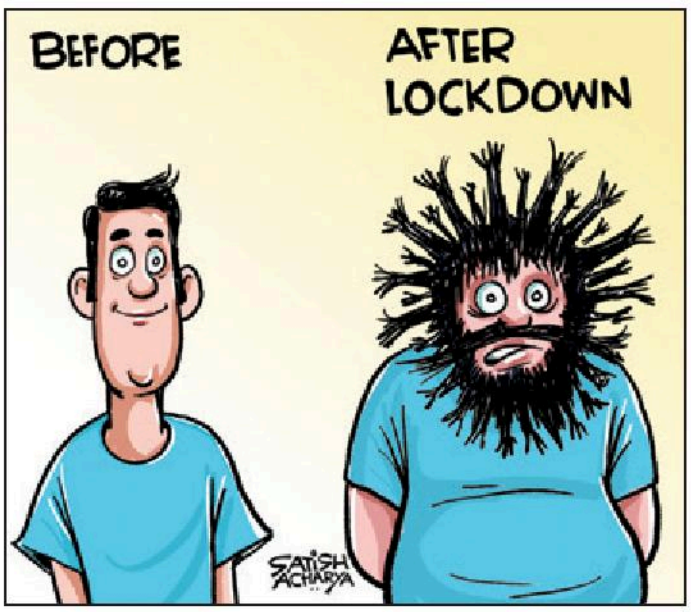
In a live message on Facebook, the DC said that the infection that originated in Nanjangud has spread among some of the employees of the pharmaceutical company and their primary contacts in houses and their neighbourhood. "The disease has not spread to the people who are not in contact and residents must not panic due to rumours. It is not true that COVID-19 has reached community spread stage and I request people not to heed to malicious hearsay," Abhiram Sankar said.

Mysuru reported two more positive cases for Coronavirus last night, taking the total to 19. Among them one is a woman, the wife of P-52 the employee of Jubilant Generics who was tested as third positive case in the district a week ago.

According to the latest health bulletin released by the Mysuru district administration, the two more cases are identified as P109 and P110, the former is aged 63 years and latter is 27, the wife of P52. With this, a total of 16 cases were in the contact of P52, with majority of 14 being his colleagues.

STAR PUNCH

By Satish Acharya



STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."
Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.
Editor-in-Chief K.B. Ganapathy B.A.; B.L.
Mysuru, Thursday 2nd April 2020

Courage conquers crisis

Global scenario, particularly in the self-declared *developed* countries and that in India are strikingly contrasting on many counts in the ongoing COVID-triggered crisis. The vast differences in the pace of its spread, number of victims testing positive and fatalities in the countries of Europe as well as America compared to the respective phenomena in India portrays the land, its leadership and the people at large as an unparalleled example of courage conquering crisis. The need to be steadfast and not slip into a mood of relaxing hereafter cannot be over exaggerated. The charge that China is the villain as the originator of the menace and launched a biological warfare to destroy the economy of its rival has gone viral. This battle between the world's two leading economies, boasting GDP several times that of most other countries should remind Mysureans of the Kannada proverb *"Ganda hendira jagaladalli koosu badavaayithu."*

In times of many calamities in the past, blamed on nature, forgetting the well-known misdeeds of human beings hurting the health of other life forms, people of the country have largely depended on administration to retrieve normal life. One has every reason to feel gratified this time that people from all walks of life and the many sectors of the economy in private management have risen like one man as it were by cohesive acts.

The factor of resilience and the never-say-die spirit of India's people at large should make the masses feel proud of themselves. When a hurricane of level five, exceeding the pace of 150 km per hour, swept through the Southern States of USA a few years ago, people of those areas took more than six months to get back on their feet, while a cloud burst that submerged entire area of Mumbai brought life in that mega city to a stand still, the city's residents and the administration demonstrated their resourcefulness in returning to normal life within 36 hours. This happens in that city once every few years. As if to emulate Mumbaikars, India's many industrial houses have stepped in to pro-actively support the administration by not resorting to lay off and added to that, not to withhold the wages of their workforce.

Many society-friendly organisations have been sparing no stones unturned in their act of feeding the daily-wage-earning work-force in this time of hardship. Many villages across the State have also demonstrated that they are in no way lagging behind the urbanites by falling in line with the discipline prescribed by the administration. India's courage in conquering the ongoing crisis has no parallel in any other country of the world *(Dhairyam sarvatra saadhanam)*.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

ENCAPSULATED ESSENCE: ***'Faith can move even mountains' goes the well-known saying, which finds resonance in the Gita when it says faith and devotion can enable even a dumb person to speak and a lame being to even scale a mountain. The point being made here is that where humility and faith reside, sanctity and divinity dwell. The world consists of dualities. Good and bad, evil and noble, beautiful and ugly, happiness and sorrow and so on. Every aspect of man's life is a bewildering and confounding concoction of dualities which confront him every moment. Man has to navigate his way through this dangerous quagmire. If he has to emerge unscathed, then the words of the realised masters and sacred texts are his guiding lights.***

— Mirle Karthik in Deccan Herald

NEWS SPARKLERS

'Crazy Snail Lady' cares for 150 pet snails

London: Pepper Apollo has been fascinated with snails ever since she saw some outside her workplace, 10 years ago. Today she is a self-described "crazy snail lady" with 150 shelled gastropods in her care.

The UK-based woman is genuinely fascinated with snails and that becomes obvious when browsing her social media profiles. Her Facebook profile picture is a doctored version of the Mona Lisa where the protagonist's head was replaced with that of a snail, her handle is always some variation of "crazy snail lady", and she seems to only post about snails.

"When, you've got 150 snails, that puts you into the crazy snail lady category. I started collecting snails about 10 years ago, I found some outside of work, then it kind of snowballed," " Pepper laughingly said.

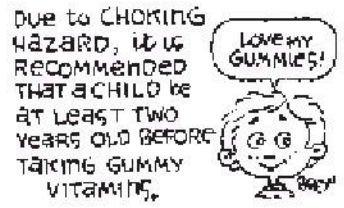
Xherdan, the unofficial world's scariest-looking cat

Rüti: The phrase "a face only a mother could love" is usually used maliciously, but in the case of Xherdan, a bald, wrinkly and evil-looking cat, it couldn't be more true, And his mother, 47-year-old Sandra Filippi, from the Swiss town of Rüti, does indeed love him very much and claims that despite his scary look, he is a sweet pet who loves to sleep and interact with his human owners. She claims that although most people are indeed a bit scared the first time they see Xherdan, they eventually grow to like him after seeing how playful and friendly he really is.

After a video of Xherdan recently went viral online, people compared the wrinkly feline with a brain, a caterpillar or an alien, among other things, but to his owner, he couldn't look more perfect.

HEALTH CAPSULE by Bron Smith

Are children taking more supplements?


Due to CHOKING HAZARD, it is RECOMMENDED THAT a CHILD be AT LEAST TWO YEARS OLD BEFORE TAKING GUMMY VITAMINS.
LOVE MY GUMMIES!

Jama Paediatrics reports that 1/3 of children and adolescents in the United States take dietary supplements. Herbal, non-vitamin and non-mineral supplements among youth have almost doubled over the last 10 years

**Health Capsules is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature.*

Minister launches vehicles to sell vegetables at doorstep

Mysuru, Apr. 2 (MK)- District in-charge Minister V. Somanna yesterday launched the vehicles, arranged by Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) and Horticulture Department, to sell fruits, vegetables and other necessary items, at the doorsteps of city residents.

Speaking on the occasion, he said that these arrangements are made so that people do not come out of their houses and stayed safe in their homes; Also, to see that no one is left hungry during the lockdown period.

Urging the people to buy from these vehicles that come in front of their houses, the Minister reminded people to maintain social distance while purchasing. He also instructed sellers not to charge extra price for any commodity.

MLAs G.T. Devegowda, S.A. Ramdas and L. Nagendra, MP Pratap Simha, Mayor Tasneem, Zilla Panchayat President Parimala Shyam, Deputy Commissioner Abhiram G. Sankar, City Police Commissioner Dr. Chandragupta and MCC Commissioner Gurudatta Hegde were present during the launch.

Really...?

- ***IF YOU TOOK OUT ALL THE EMPTY SPACE IN OUR ATOMS, THE HUMAN RACE COULD FIT IN THE VOLUME OF A SUGAR CUBE:*** *The atoms that make up the world around us seem solid but are in fact over 99.99999 per cent empty space. An atom consists of a tiny, dense nucleus surrounded by a cloud of electrons, spread over a proportionately vast area. This is because as well as being particles, electrons act like waves. Electrons can only exist where the crests and troughs of these waves add up correctly. And instead of existing in one point, each electron's location is spread over a range of probabilities – an orbital. They thus occupy a huge amount of space.*

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

"I wasn't that drunk yesterday."
"Oh boy you took the shower head in your arms and told it to stop crying !"

Today's Currency Rate

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 76.26
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 94.54
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 20.76
1 Euro	= Rs. 83.38

VOICE OF THE READER

The Rediscovery of India

Sir,

Mahatma Gandhi said that the Future of India lies in its villages. Today when we see heart-wrenching visuals of lakhs of poor desperately trying to leave the cities and return to their homes, we are reminded of his words.

Decades after Gandhiji, a messiah named Anna Hazare championed the cause in a village named Ralegan Siddhi in Ahmednagar. With watershed management as the main area of focus, he strengthened village communities, fought corruption, brought prosperity to villagers and reversed migration to cities. He also brought about social change by improving the status of women and the Dalits.

The present exodus from the cities back to villages has brought out the glaring fact that the rural poor have been exploited to enable the growth of metropolises that are imploding under their own weight.

It is also time to pause and reconsider the very paradigm of 'Development' and the mad rush towards improving the 'GDP'. When we talk about GDP, there is a need to look at the Bhutanese philosophy of 'The Nine Domains of Gross National Happiness' as enumerated below:

1. Psychological Well-being; **2.** Standard of Living; **3.** Good Governance; **4.** Health; **5.** Education; **6.** Community Vitality; **7.** Cultural Diversity and Resilience; **8.** Time Use; **9.** Ecological Diversity and Resilience

Surely, these domains cannot have meaning if village communities across the country are compelled to leave their homes and made to live in crowded, unclean slums in faraway cities!

While it is fine to plan for 'Smart Cities', perhaps the time has come to think about the need for 'Flourishing Villages'! Anna Hazare's vision, coupled with the Bhutanese philosophy of the 'Nine Domains of Gross National Happiness' could be the mantra for the Rediscovery of India!

—Col. C.P. Muthanna (retd.)
Former President,
Coorg Wildlife Society and
Vice-Chair, Kodagu Model Forest Trust
Gonikoppa
31.3.2020

On curbing the Coronavirus

Sir,

Thanks to both the Central and State Governments for taking measures to curb Coronavirus. I suggest and urge our Prime Minister Modi to take the following additional steps to put an end to this endemic.

(i) Track all the people who have come from foreign countries to India in the recent past.

(ii) Let the Police quarantine them in their houses or separate houses and also keep the key with themselves till all the family members test negative.

(iii) Let a mobile health van with insulated doctors and nurses visit these houses and quarantine the foreign visitor in a separate room in his/her house itself. If anyone gets infected, health officials should hospitalise such person. This team should consist of some psychological counsellors also.

(iv) Let a mobile van deliver quarantined family's needs such as groceries, medicines and other things to the doorstep of quarantined houses.

(v) Let a mobile service van containing electricians, plumbers etc., take care of their repair and maintenance needs.

(vi) Let the 'India Lockdown' programme continue for some more days, without causing much damage to the public, especially the rural populations, daily wage workers, destitutes, transgenders and so on. You can lift this curfew after the situation comes under control.

(vii) Let the media highlight the stories of the persons who have recovered. This creates confidence in people's hearts.

We all should play our roles properly and support the Government in this grim situation. All may pray silently in their homes. Prayers have wonderful effects on their minds.

—M.R. Ananth Kumar
Kenchalagudu village
29.3.2020

Safety Kits distributed to Pourakarmikas

Mysuru, Apr. 2 (RKB)- The Pourakarmikas of Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) Ward No. 23 were distributed with Safety Kits by PG Janaspandana Foundation. Each Safety Kit includes Sanitisers, Dettol Soaps, Napkins and drinking water bottles.

Former MLA Vasu launched the programme at Jaganmohan Palace premises yesterday.

Speaking on the occasion, Foundation President and former Corporator P. Prashanth Gowda said that Pourakarmikas will be served with tea and drinking water every day at 6.30 am.

"You Can Come Out of It"

First Bengaluru patient to recover from Coronavirus

Bengaluru, Apr.2- Those were a difficult couple of weeks. But P.K. Venkat Raghavan can now, literally, breathe easy. "I am the first patient coming out clean... and I never infected my family. That's a big deal. I don't hope it will come to you. But if at all it comes, it is manageable."

These are pearls of wisdom from Venkat, the first Covid-19 patient in Bengaluru to be discharged after the viral disease ran its two-week course.

He had gone to the United States in early March on an unavoidable office trip, and returned via Heathrow Airport in London.

A resident of Rajarajeshwari Nagar in West Bengaluru, he tested positive for the novel Coronavirus within a day of returning and got himself admitted to the Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Chest Diseases (RGICD) soon after. Now, he has a message for the world reeling under the impact of the pandemic: "You can come out of it. I'm a testimonial of this. You can manage it."

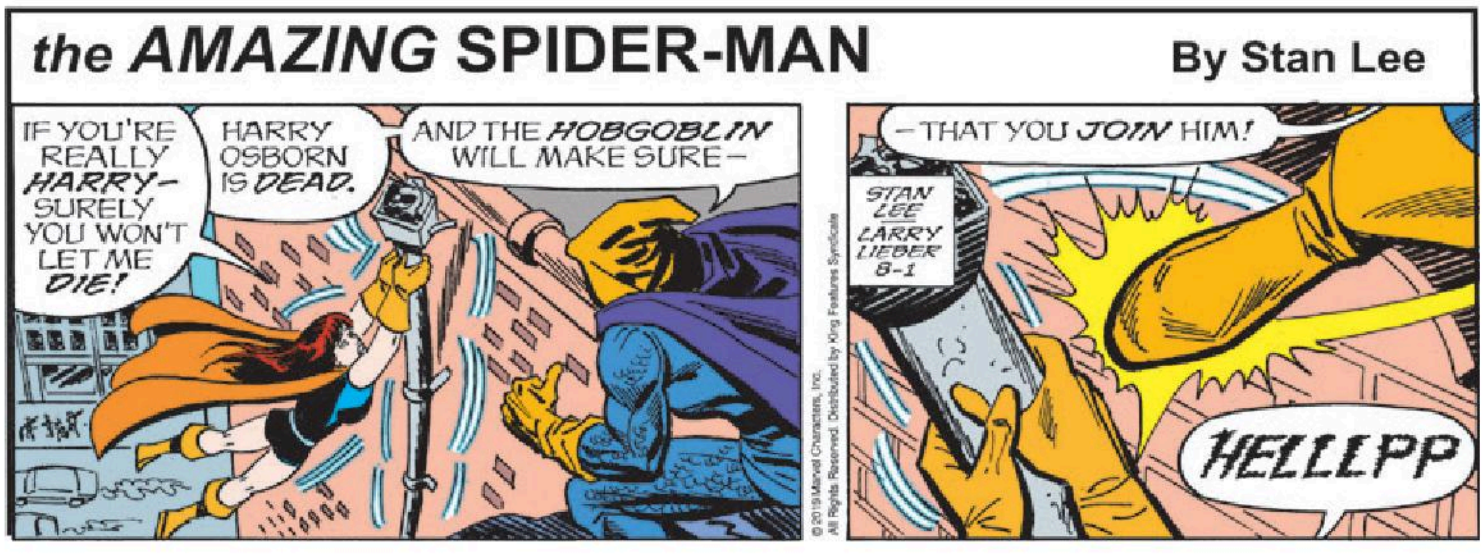
Venkat has made videos of what he went through and shared them on YouTube for the world to see. He is not exactly sure where he contracted the virus, though he was very careful — it could possibly have happened either because of the common bathrooms at the airport that he inevitably used, where surfaces were likely touched by infected co-passengers, or a security scanner that required fingerprints. Or, perhaps, an infected co-passenger was sitting too close.

In any case, he felt something was amiss as soon as he arrived. He asked the doctors at the airport to test him, but the infrastructure at the time was not yet up and running. He was asked to go home. Since his company had sent a car with a driver wearing a mask, he decided to go straight home and decide on his next plan. He went to a local private hospital but the doctors there were too scared to admit him. His brother-in-law then did the research and referred him to RGICD, he says in a video.

"There they did file creation immediately, gave me medicines and took the test considering my travel history. I returned home and spent the night away from my family again. The next day, I got a call from the doctors that my virus load was too high, and asked me to get admitted. In fact, I was happy, as I did not want to infect my family. I requested for an ambulance and they arranged it. I packed up and got admitted to the isolation facility," he says, adding that the consternation in the neighbourhood when people saw the ambulance is a story for another day.

The initial room was a small one with a creaky bed, but the hospital was still setting up its COVID-19 facility. He was moved to a better room in a couple of days. Food was also an issue, as the hospital had spicy fare and the food he arranged for could not be delivered as the person bringing it was too scared to go into the hospital. He slept hungry through some of his fevered days.

"My temperature used to shoot up in the mornings,102 degrees or so. But the doctors really guided me well. They put me through antibiotics to prevent secondary infections, as this is a fever there is no way to control, and there is no vaccine. They give you a Tamiflu variant called Starflu, and fever-reducing medicines. So you have to go through the day with fever," he says and adds, "I'd never had a fever this long. But in two weeks, it subsided. I was happy about the income tax I paid for so many years. There are people with a service mindset. The doctors were good. My guru helped me manage my days better. He explained that the reason for early morning high fever was the body fighting the infection."


the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
By Stan Lee
IF YOU'RE REALLY HARRY— SURELY YOU WON'T LET ME DIE!
HARRY OSBORN IS DEAD.
AND THE HOBGOBLIN WILL MAKE SURE—
—THAT YOU JOIN HIM!
STAN LEE LARRY LIEBER 8-1
HELLPP
© 2019 Marvel Characters, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Distributed by King Features Syndicate

NEWS BRIEFS

SSLC time-table after Apr. 14

Minister for Primary and Secondary Education S. Suresh Kumar yesterday stated that the time-table for SSLC exams would be announced only after Apr. 14. He has asked the students not to be dejected following the postponement of the exams but study well during holidays besides asking the students not to venture out of their houses.

Passes for APMC traders, labourers

The Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) will be providing passes for shop owners and labourers for entry into Bandipalya APMC yard. Shop owners and labourers of Bandipalya should compulsorily show their passes to the security staff to enter Bandipalya. This rule does not apply to those coming to Bandipalya for purchasing essential commodities.

Food distribution

Ward No. 44 Corporator Savitha Suresh led a team to distribute food to destitute in the Ward. The team has been continuously distributing food since five days and also rice and grocery to poor families.

KRS Water Level

(Maximum : 124.80 feet)

Today	104.35 ft
Inflow	159 cusecs
Outflow	1593 cusecs

Kabini Level

(Maximum : 2,284.00 feet)

Today	2,271.73 ft
Inflow	110 cusecs
Outflow	700 cusecs

Obituary

Kamalamma

Mysuru, Apr. 2- Kamalamma (68), wife of retired Fire Station Officer Siddegowda and a resident of Yelwal, passed away yesterday in city.

A native of Hassan, she leaves behind her husband, two sons including Mohan, who is serving in the Intelligence Wing at Mysuru and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at Mavinakere Halekote village, Holenarasipur taluk in Hassan district this morning.

District Minister asks
Officials to ensure Food for All

Mysuru, Apr. 2 (RK&DM)- With the COVID-19 lockdown affecting everyone, District Minister V. Somanna has asked the officials to ensure that no one suffers from hunger in the district.

The Minister was addressing officials at KEB Engineers Association auditorium at Kadakola on Nanjangud Road yesterday after visiting Jubilant Organics at Nanjangud, which has now become the epicentre of Coronavirus spread in the district.

Noting that the temple town of Nanjangud has been declared as Red Zone and the entire town and its surrounding areas are under total lockdown, Somanna said that in this backdrop, the Taluk Administration must ensure that people get essential commodities and medicines. He also directed the Tahsildar to ensure that no one suffers from hunger and the health of everyone is taken care of.

Stressing on the need for a perfect co-ordination between all Government Departments for facing the situation that has arisen following the lockdown, he said that officials must keep a watch on those who are under Home Quarantine and Isolation.

Pointing out that all the 1,458 employees of Jubilant Organics have been Quarantined, Somanna said that 761 of them were from Nanjangud taluk and the rest 697 employees were from other places. He directed the Tahsildar to provide food to security personnel of the company and to periodically examine their health.

Deputy Commissioner Abhiram G. Sankar apprised the Minister of the Sanitisation and Fumigation measures taken up by the District Administration.

SP C.B. Ryshyanth said that Police and Health Department staff have been tasked with the responsibility of ensuring that Quarantined employees of the company do not come out for any reason.

Earlier, the Minister visited Nanjangud Srikanteshwara Temple Dasoha Bhavan. MP Pratap Simha, MLA B. Harshavardhan, ZP CEO Prashanth Kumar Mishra and other officials were present.

Somanna appeals public to follow lockdown guidelines

Maintaining that there is no other way other than lockdown to stop the spread of the Novel Coronavirus, District Minister Somanna has appealed the public to strictly follow the lockdown regulations announced by the Government.

Speaking from social media platform *Facebook Live* yesterday, Somanna said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has declared countrywide lockdown till April.14 at a time when the country was facing COVID-19 crisis. Asking the people to stay indoors to ensure success of the lockdown, the Minister lauded the people for heeding to the words of the Prime Minister at this hour of crisis.

Complimenting Mysuru and Kodagu District Administrations for effective precautionary and safety measures, he said that measures have been taken to door deliver fruits and vegetables to Quarantined homes.

Appealing the people not to get panicky, Somanna underlined the importance of people staying at homes during this crucial period.

Asking the people not to unnecessarily come out on to the streets, he said that it was important for everyone to follow lockdown regulations till Apr.14.

Senior Officials of SWR Mysuru Division conduct 15-hour field inspection

Mysuru, Apr. 2- Following directions from Aparna Garg, Divisional Railway Manager (DRM), South Western Railways (SWR), Mysuru, Senior Officials of the Civil Engineering Department of Mysuru Division, conducted a 15-hour field inspection to underline the importance of safety in train operations.

The inspections focused on observing all operational safety protocols and zero tolerance towards accidents. The Senior Officials travelled from Mysuru to Karajgi via Arsikere, Birur and Davangere on board the special coach housing Oscillation Monitoring System (OMS).

Senior Civil Engineers in the territorial jurisdiction on the Trunk Line recorded critical aspects during the run. In the course of the inspection, the Officials interacted with gangmen and other staff engaged in maintenance of track.

K. Ravichandran, Senior Divisional Engineer (Co-ordination), SWR, Mysuru, seen interacting with staff during field inspection.

The staff engaged in maintenance of permanent way (tracks), signal and telecommunications, train operations and loco pilots were counselled reiterating the importance of safety in train operations in the backdrop of the vital role the Railways is playing in transportation of essential commodities to remote locations to mitigate the sufferings of the people affected by the lockdown.

During the interaction with trackmen, the officials exhorted them to never lower the guard in view of the critical times the nation is facing and that contribution of each one of us and at all levels was the need of the hour.

The Officials also reviewed the general preparedness of critical staff under safety category for their own well-being as also others by preventing the spread of COVID-19. The importance of wearing masks, using of hand sanitiser and maintaining safe distance at work-place was also emphasised. Staff were distributed protective face masks, sanitisers, etc. The supervisors were also instructed to ensure uninterrupted supply of food at all times to field staff.

K. Ravichandran, Senior Divisional Engineer (Co-ordination) led the team comprising Civil Engineers of North, Central and West Sub-Divisions.

During the inspection, the condition of physical assets like bridges, turnouts, etc. were checked. The arrangements at unmanned and manned level crossings were also reviewed, according to a press release from Priya Shetty, Divisional Commercial Manager and PRO.

MCC ready to supply ration to doors of the poor: Mayor

Mayor Tasneem addressing press persons at the MCC Old Council Hall yesterday as Dy. Mayor C. Sridhar and MCC Commissioner Gurudatta Hegde look on.

Mysuru, Apr. 2 (PM&DM)- Asserting that the MCC was ready to supply ration to the poor at their doorstep, Mayor Tasneem has sought the co-operation of organisations and Associations in this endeavour.

Addressing press persons at the MCC Old Council Hall here yesterday, she appealed voluntary organisations which are serving food to the poor in the city, to instead donate food grains and grocery items to the poor and the needy, as it would be more purposeful for them.

Calling upon organisations to generously donate food grains to the MCC, so that the Civic Body can make packets of them and distribute them to slum-dwellers, the shelterless and the poor in a more organised manner.

Pointing out that the MCC has been undertaking sanitisation activities on a war-footing in the city, she said that Hydroperoxide is being sprayed in all Wards and all roads are being sprayed with disinfectants (Sodium Hypochlorite).

She further said that the MCC will distribute passes to donors and members of organisations engaged in carrying out service activities during lockdown. The passes will be distributed online, for which a website will soon be launched, she added.

COVID-19: MLA Ramdas performs Mrutyunjaya Homa

Mysuru, Apr. 2 (MTY&DM)- With COVID-19 spreading unabatedly across the country, the city's Brahmana Paraspara Sahaya Vedike performed a Mrutyunjaya Homa at Kashi Vishwanath Temple premises on Ramanuja Road here, under the leadership of KR MLA S.A. Ramdas yesterday.

The Homa was carried out by Palace Priests Kumar and Vidwan Chandru, praying for the total destruction of the Novel Coronavirus that is creating havoc across the globe.

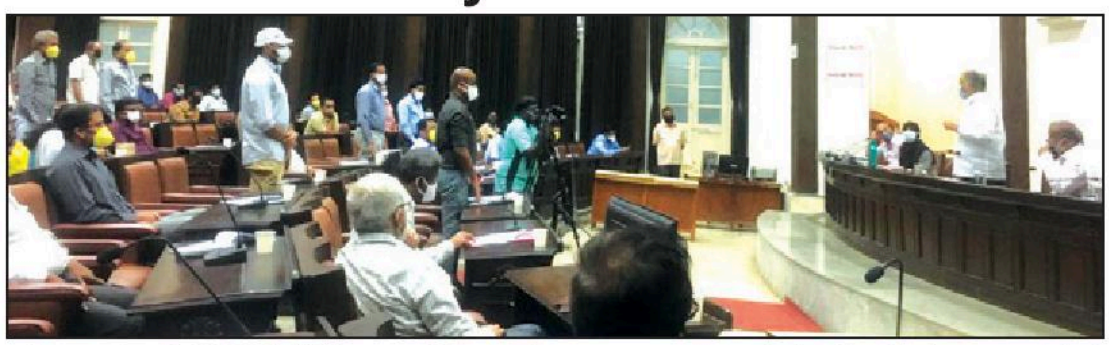
However, the Homa was disrupted for a while due to a honeybee attack. Even as the Homa was taking place, the fumes arising out of the Homa resulted in a swarm of bees coming out of a honey comb from a peepal tree located close to the temple.

The bees are said to have attacked about six people present during the Homa. But after a few minutes, the bees flew out of the temple arena as fumes spread wider, thus bringing relief to the gathering. After a brief disruption, the rituals continued.

Speaking to press persons on the occasion, Ramdas explained the purpose of the Homa in the wake of COVID-19.

He said that the Homa was performed praying the almighty to end the COVID-19 pandemic.

Dist. Minister tells officials to take up home delivery of essential items



Mysuru, Apr. 2 (MK&DM)- With the city coming to a standstill following the COVID-19 lockdown, District Minister V. Somanna has advised the officials to take up home delivery of essential items and articles of daily use to members of the public and also to ensure distribution of food to inmates of shelter homes.

Addressing a meeting of officials from various Departments at the ZP Hall here yesterday, Somanna sought inputs from officials regarding the measures taken including sanitisation, fumigation and fogging, to stop the outbreak of endemics, supply of drinking water, power supply and a host of other civic issues, even as the city continues to reel under soaring temperatures.

Pointing out that the Union Government has declared COVID-19 as a national crisis, Somanna instructed the officials to distribute ration to everyone, without taking into consideration their Ration Card status (APL or BPL).

Stressing on the need for the officials to work on a war-footing at this hour of crisis, he underlined the need for a perfect co-ordination between the staff of all Departments in order to ensure that all Government measures work out perfectly.

Mutton shops to open three days a week

Clarifying on the confusion regarding the sale of mutton in city during lockdown, Somanna said that mutton shops are allowed to open between 6 am and 5 pm for three days a week — Tuesday, Friday and Sunday. Stating that mutton shops can sell mutton at Rs. 500 a kg, Somanna warned of shutting down of stalls that sell mutton at exorbitant prices. The Minister directed the officials to ensure that mutton stalls maintain hygiene in their vicinity and that generated wastes are disposed off in an appropriate manner.

Chamundeshwari MLA G.T. Devegowda said that it was important for people to stay at home during the lockdown period.

He wanted the District Administration to undertake door delivery of food and other essential items to the people as such the measure will ensure that people stay indoors. He also asked the officials to take up sanitisation in all lanes and bylanes of the city and to ensure uninterrupted power and water supplies.

Chamaraja MLA L. Nagendra appealed for setting up more 'Santwana Kendras' in his constituency, which now has only three of them. Pointing out that the relief camp at Nanjaraja Bahadur Choultry is overcrowded, he said that maintaining social distance has become problematic at this camp.

Referring to sale of mutton, Nagendra said that most mutton shops in city are witnessing a surge in the number of customers and as such it is important to ensure social distancing in front of all mutton stalls. He also urged for spraying of disinfectants in all MCC Wards.

MP Pratap Simha wanted the authorities to take up immediate cleaning of the big drain leading from MUDA office to Subbarayanakere grounds.

Noting that foul smell has been emanating from the drain, Simha expressed concern that the uncleaned drainage may become the cause for the outbreak of epidemics. Stating that the drain has become a breeding ground for mosquitoes, he urged the authorities to take up immediate cleaning of the drainage.

DC Abhiram G. Sankar and MCC Commissioner Gurudatta Hegde explained the precautionary and safety measures taken to stop the spread of the pandemic.

Mayor Tasneem, ZP President Parimala Shyam, City Police Commissioner Dr. Chandragupta and MUDA Commissioner P.S. Kantharaju were present.

Fire at Sewage Farm doused after nine-hour operation

Mysuru, Apr. 2 (SPN&KS)- Huge mounds of garbage at the Sewage Farm in Vidyaranyapuram, caught fire yesterday morning and was doused by Fire Fighters after a nine-hour-long operation.

Members of the public, who noticed the fire at about 11 am, informed Saraswathipuram Fire Station. Soon, Fire and Emergency Services personnel of Saraswathipuram (16 personnel), Bannimantap (6) and Hebbal Fire Stations (6), who rushed to the spot with five fire tenders, managed to douse the fire after a nine-hour-long operation.

Water was used 10 times from 4,500-litre capacity tankers, two times each from 9,500-litre capacity tankers and 16,000-litre capacity tankers to extinguish the fire and preventing it from spreading further, according to Fire Station Officer Raju.

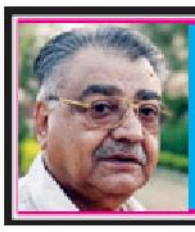
Liquor addict attempts suicide

Mysuru, Apr. 2 (YDS&KS)- A liquor addict, unable to procure liquor for his daily consumption, attempted suicide by slitting his throat at Hoysala Layout in Gundu Rao Nagar here yesterday.

The seriously injured person has been identified as 45-year-old Anand of Hoysala Layout. He was rushed to a private hospital, where he is being treated by a team of doctors.

Following COVID-19 outbreak, the entire nation has come under lockdown and to prevent the spread of the virus, liquor shops have been shut down.

Depressed over non-availability of liquor, Anand had attempted suicide. Vidyaranyapuram Police have registered a case.



Abracadabra... Abracadabra...

By K.B. Ganapathy

Remembering Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj – 9

Shivaji accepts Aurangzeb's invitation and goes to Agra...

[Continued from Mar. 23]

During my school days, there was a text book in Kannada about famous leaders and prophets of the world. Among them was Shivaji about whom my mother had told me in her own distinctive way — about Shivaji's adventures in superlatives. Of his adventures, one was his escape from the prison of Aurangzeb in Agra.

At that time, I was given the impression that Aurangzeb defeated Shivaji in a war and put him in jail as a prisoner. It was only later, as a student of history in my graduate class, that I learnt it was not so.

While the armistice with the Mughal General Raja Jai Singh seemed to be working well despite the cold and reluctant letter of pardon from Aurangzeb to Shivaji, a surprise awaited Shivaji from Aurangzeb. **Shivaji received a second letter phrased in a very different language.** Before dealing with this letter here, let me dwell upon the court intrigues that were going on at Agra and the tales carried against Shivaji to Aurangzeb from the Emperor's Palace clique of Shayista Khan, his friends and supporters.

A seed of suspicion was planted in the mind of Emperor Aurangzeb by the discredited uncle Shayista Khan. Do you remember him? Yes. It was Shivaji who had chopped off his thumb and was the cause for his demotion and transfer as Governor to Bengal. Let it be. Because of Raja Jai Singh's unquestionable loyalty to his master in the true spirit of a Rajput, it was absolutely possible for him to remain the Viceroy of Central India and Shivaji's immediate superior as per the terms of agreement of peace and surrender. It was also expected that Shivaji would have continued to be loyal to the Emperor.

Unfortunately, as a case of serendipity, Aurangzeb who was by nature suspicious of his servants began to brood over the esteem in which a Hindu Raja Jai Singh held the former

rebel a Hindu Shivaji.

Historian Dennis Kincaid writes, "Two Hindus together — it was natural that even for a Rajput however loyal to his sovereign, would nevertheless be unduly lenient to a co-religionist."

Aurangzeb was reminded by his uncle's clique that Raja Jai Singh was sent to crush Shivaji and conquer that territory and Forts stamping out Shivaji and his Maratha forces completely. But instead of that Raja Jai Singh had offered the rebels, Shivaji and his men, most favourable terms under the surrender agreement.

Aurangzeb began worrying about one important question nagging his mind: **What guarantee was there that Shivaji would observe those terms of surrender? And worse, what was the guarantee that Shivaji might not win over Raja Jai Singh to his side and re-establish the Hindu Kingdom?**

This was the immediate cause for Emperor Aurangzeb writing a second letter phrased in a very deceptive language. This was the most important letter which in fact laid the foundation stone for the establishment of **Maratha Empire** beginning with the formal coronation of Shivaji as **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj** and for the establishment of a Hindu Raj (Hindu Kingdom) in the face of the Mughal Empire and later British Empire.

Aurangzeb wrote, "You are at present serving in our imperial camp. In recognition of your services, a handsome dress and a pretty little jewelled sword are sent to you herewith." The tone and tenor of the letter, apparently, was in a language of flattery. Aurangzeb continues in his own language of chicanery no doubt to trap Shivaji by using the words of the proverbial spider who invited the fly saying, "Come walk into my parlour."

So Aurangzeb continues, "We have a high opinion of you. Therefore, we desire you to come here quickly and without loss of time. When we grant you audience, we shall receive you with great hospitality and soon grant you leave to return."

As they say, the 'mountain rat' Shivaji indeed smelt a rat in this letter from Aurangzeb. Shivaji was in a dilemma. If he refused the Emperor's invitation, he would be arrested and perhaps executed on some false charges, even of hostility. But, if he accepted the invitation and went to the Emperor's court, he could be held as a prisoner, totally helpless being hundreds of miles away from his land and people. After all, Shivaji knew no one ever believed Aurangzeb to be a sincere person who kept his words.

In such a dilemma, Shivaji turned to his mother Jijabai for advice. Jijabai reflected deeply and then reluctantly counselled acceptance of the Emperor's invitation.

Next, Shivaji consulted his boss Raja Jai Singh who understandably advised Shivaji to go to Mughal Court where he might be given a higher position in the service of the Mughal cause. However, Shivaji diffidently suggested, as if by a gut feeling or a premonition, that perhaps the invitation was a trap.

Hearing this from Shivaji, Raja Jai Singh offered his own son Ram Singh as a pledge (mortgage) for the good faith of the Emperor. At last, Shivaji consented.

Shivaji handed over his principality (Jahagir) and the territories won from the Bijapur Sultan to his mother to rule as a Regent in his place should he never return. He mounted his horse and set out on his long ride north to Agra where the imperial court was. Shivaji was flanked on one side by his young son Sambhaji and on the other side Raja Jai Singh's son Ram Singh. Behind him was an escort of Maratha cavalry of 200 men, among them nobles from his court and soldiers. Thus Shivaji began his journey to Aurangzeb's court at Agra to honour Aurangzeb's second letter of invitation to him. Shivaji marches to Aurangzeb's court like a king, Raja with all the pageant and spectacle.

[To be continued]

e-mail
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Nizamuddin Markaz

(Continued from page 1)

"Two persons from Mysuru have been kept under home isolation in New Delhi and two persons have been kept under observation in Bengaluru. We have details of all the 75 persons who had gone to the event from Mysuru and among those who have returned home no one has been infected by COVID-19. Detailed health check-up has been conducted on all the returnees and they are under Government-supervised quarantine as a precaution," Minister Somanna said.

Mysuru-Kodagu MP Pratap Simha appealed to those who attended the congregation to voluntarily report to the authorities and take medical treatment.

One person from Nagamangala

Mandya Superintendent of Police Parashuram told *Star of Mysore* that only one person from Mandya (Nagamangala) had attended the Markaz event. "The State Government had sent us a list of eight persons to be traced. We launched a search operation. Though they have given Mandya as their address, they are living outside Mandya and one person's phone location shows that he is in Uttar Pradesh. We are tracking the movements. Otherwise, there are some preachers in certain religious places in Mandya and they have come from Gujarat. They have spent 25 days here and their health is stable. There are 24 outsiders in Mandya district and they have been checked and even they are under quarantine," the SP said.

13 from Kodagu

From Kodagu, 13 persons attended the event and all are from Kushalnagar. Of them, five persons have been put under quarantine in New Delhi and five have gone to their relatives' houses in other States. One person has returned to Kushalnagar and has completed the 14-day mandatory quarantine. The remaining two persons and the one person who has completed the 14-day isolation will again be put under observation and they will not be allowed to mix with others, said a communication from Kodagu District Administration.

12 from Chamarajanagar

From Chamarajanagar, 12 persons participated in Nizamuddin Markaz. Of them, four persons have been traced and put under quarantine, said Chamarajanagar District Minister S. Suresh Kumar. While two persons are from Kollegal, the remaining two have been traced to Chamarajanagar. Efforts are on to trace the remaining nine Markaz attendees, he added.

District Minister visits Choultries, Youth Hostel

Serves breakfast, checks social distancing

Mysuru, Apr. 2 (MTY&KS)- District Minister V. Somanna, who visited the choultries and Youth Hostel, where many travellers and the shelterless are housed, inspected the places and took stock of the situation this morning.

The Minister, who first visited the CITB Choultry in Siddarthanagar, where nearly 162 tourists from Rajasthan are housed, inspected the place and spoke to them.

Minister Somanna then visited Nanjaraja Bahadur Choultry, where nearly 217 travellers and homeless people are housed and served them breakfast.

Speaking to the media, Somanna said that Mysureans have displayed their humanitarian concern by serving food and other essential commodities to the needy in this difficult times and lauded several voluntary organisations for extending their support.

Continuing, he said that he had been to CITB Choultry at Siddarthanagar where 162 people from Rajasthan who were sent back from Maharashtra border are housed and added that the District Administration with the help of various organisations are taking care of them.

The Minister later visited the Youth Hostel, where 450 people are housed. He said that food and medical care is being taken care and added that cleanliness is maintained at all places where travellers, who are unable to go back to their native places and homeless people are housed.

232 Fair Price Shops to distribute rations from today:

Minister Somanna said that 232 Fair Price Shops in the district would be distributing rations to every household irrespective of them having BPL or APL cards on humanitarian grounds.

He said that while Fair Price Shops in urban places would commence distributing rations from today, Fair Price Shops at rural places would be doing the same from tomorrow.

MP Pratap Simha, MCC Commissioner Gurudatta Hegde, MUDA Commissioner P.S. Kantharaju, MCC Health Officer Jayanth and others were present.

Only five percent of city bakeries open

(Continued from page 1)

Pradeep of Srikrishna Bakery told *Star of Mysore* that both closure and opening notice came suddenly. "We need time to prepare and get fresh bakery products. Plus most of the bakers have sent their employees home and there is a lockdown. It will be difficult for the staff to immediately return and resume work," he said.

If the bakers are to be believed, the shortage of flour and maida in the wholesale market has only compounded the problem. The shortage will likely to continue till the end of the lockdown.

Only five percent bakeries are open in city, which is highly inadequate to meet the demand. "Our workers who live in far off places cannot return because there is no public transport and workers do not have own vehicles. Days before the lockdown we were operating bakeries with skeletal staff but now, even their families are scared and calling them back. Many of them have managed to leave already," said Prashanth Nair, a bakery owner in Vijayanagar.

Mysuru Hotel Owners Association President C. Narayanagowda told *SOM* that there were over 80 bakeries in city and over 300 in district. "All of them will take time to open as fresh and regular supply of bakery products will have to be ensured. They might open from tomorrow and will be able to carry out full-fledged business only after lockdown," he said.

Donate food grains to MCC instead of serving cooked food: Commissioner

Mysuru, Apr. 2 (PM&DM)- On volunteers serving of food to destitute, shelterless and other needy people in city, MCC Commissioner Gurudatta Hegde said that instead of serving the food directly, the donors should come forward to donate food grains and other essential commodities to the MCC, so that the Civic Body can pool in all the commodities in packets and distribute them to all the targeted needy persons and among people in slums and other spots identified by the MCC.

He further said that breakfast, lunch and dinner are being served at all the 11 Indira Canteens.

Mayor Tasneem said that in order to stop COVID-19 pandemic from spreading, the MCC has launched several sanitisation measures, with focus on cleanliness and hygiene.

Pointing out that disinfectants are being sprayed in all the 65 Wards of the MCC, she said that special attention is being given to quarantined houses. She further said that the MCC is carrying out public awareness on the need for following lockdown regulations, by making announcements from an open jeep.

TASKS TO OFFICIALS

The MCC Commissioner has assigned tasks to officials, the details of which are as under:

- MCC Additional Commissioner N.M. Shashikumar **(Mob: 94492-76306)** and Ranjith Kumar, AEE (UGD) **(96861-51347)** are in charge of maintenance of destitute centres and Santwana Kendras.
- Deputy Commissioner (Administration) Shivanandamurthy **(99805-57442)** - Procurement of essential commodities, distribution of passes and other administrative issues.
- Health Officers Dr. Jayanth **(94483-25885)** and Dr. D.G. Nagaraju **(94818-20856)** - Supervision of home quarantines and purchase and spraying of disinfectants.
- Deputy Commissioner (Revenue) Kumar Nayak **(99026-38586)** - Monitoring of all seven markets.
- Deputy Commissioner (Development) Biligiri Rangaswamy **(94480-60924)** and City Planning Officer Jayasimha **(94803-39495)** - Door-to-Door delivery of essential commodities, fruits and vegetables.

Incident Commanders

Also, all MCC Zonal Commissioners will function as Incident Commanders, who will take care of all the precautionary and safety measures in their respective Zones. They are:

Zone-1: Aishwarya **(96207-00762),** Zone-2: Kumar Nayak **(99026-38586),** Zone-3: B.C. Shivanandamurthy **(99805-57442),** Zone-4: Priyadarshini **(97319-46699),** Zone-5: Shivegowda **(94494-28066),** Zone-6: H. Nagaraj **(98451-44869),** Zone-7: Shivegowda **(94494-28066),** Zone-8: Kuberappa **(80739-95839),** Zone-9: Muralidhar **(94480-61719).**

COVID - 19 UPDATE

MYSURU

Persons observed till date	:	2,619
Persons isolated in home for 14 days	:	1,635
Persons isolated in hospital	:	17
Persons who completed 14-days isolation	:	967
Total samples tested	:	130
Samples found Negative	:	113
Total positive cases	:	19

STATE / NATION

Total positive cases in Karnataka	:	105
Total positive cases in India	:	2,100
Death toll so far	:	71

(NOTE: FIGURES TILL 2 PM)

COVID-19 District Emergency Control Room

The Mysuru District Emergency Control Room for COVID-19 (Coronavirus) is functional 24x7 and has a team of operators and medical professionals who are working in shifts. All related queries will be handled professionally and necessary guidance will be provided to all callers, according to Mysuru DC.

Mysuru Helpline numbers
1077 or 0821-2423800
Karnataka Helpline number: 104
Central Helpline number: 011-23978046
Email: ncov2019@gmail.com

Decoding Mythology

Dr. Devdutt Pattanaik - Author, Speaker, Illustrator, Mythologist

Mythology as Politics

As a child in Mumbai, I watched Rajan Uncle perform Chakyar Kootu. My parents were economic migrants from Odisha. My neighbours were from Maharashtra, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. And we got to see cultural performances that no one in Odisha or Maharashtra, would have had access to, like Chakyar Kootu. With his white painted face and a golden hat, Raja-appa (as we would call him) would speak in Tamil and Malayalam and I would watch the audience laugh and sneer, late into the night.

What are you saying, we asked him. So, for our benefit, he performed once in English. And we realised he was telling stories from the Puranas. But, while he was telling stories, he was also making political, cultural and social comments. Some of them sarcastic. Some cynical. Some mischievous. He told us that this was the performance art of the Vidushaka, the clown, who would convey the people's ire to the king in a fun way.

When art is stripped of politics, it is reduced to entertainment for the patron (like Apsara dancing for Indra in *Swarga)* it fails in its very purpose — to elevate the mind and soul (like Shiva dancing before the Rishis in the Deodar forest). Its metaphors become more about fantasy and less about reality. In the 19th and 20th century, after systematically destroying the 'devadasi' culture, by equating them with prostitution, dance and music was claimed by the elite society in South India, as a tool to keep alive India's classical tradition, adequately sanitised of all carnal underpinnings, to convey stories of Gods and Goddesses aesthetically, on stage. They were seen as spiritual, not political. But is that right?

Narasimha emerging from a pillar to disembowel Hiranyakashipu who tortures peace-loving Prahalada is politics. Shiva impaling Andhaka on his trident for seeking to capture Parvati is politics. Vishnu as Mohini selectively distributing the nectar of immortality between Devas and Asuras is politics. Ramayana and Mahabharata deal with property disputes and marital rights. They are narratives that explain *dharma, adharma* and *dharma-sankat* to the kings who came later. Performing these tales is not to forget about life, but to enable people to negotiate it.

Why do we never see performances on stories like the rivalry between the sons of Chamu and Bhamu, who were contesting for the throne of their maternal grandfather? One day an elephant died inside the Palace. Bhamu's son challenged Chamu's son to prove his strength, pick up the dead elephant and carry the carcass outside the Palace. Chamu's son did this with ease.

But, as soon as he stepped out of the threshold, the elephant in his arms, Bhamu's son shut the Palace gates, declared him polluted, and claimed his grandfather's throne as the purer grandson. This story is the oral lore narrated by one community of leather workers of North India to explain how they were denied their high status by their brothers who grabbed the land. It is part of their caste identity and injustice embedded in folk memory.

Would performing this in classical Bharatanatyam style cause political, cultural and social disharmony? Will it strip the temple dance of spirituality? Why have our mighty politicians and bureaucrats and judges become over-sensitive Princesses of Indian folklore who were burned even by moonlight? Why can't the narrations of the Chakyar and the Vidushaka not just entertain but also make us strong, like the hermits who slept on beds of nails?

devdutt@devdutt.com

If someone needs you, be there and stay...

By N.K.A. Ballal,
Retd. Sr. Vice-President, ITDC

Ballal

At dawn, the old man in the hospital bed died, the Army Major released the now lifeless hand he had been holding and went to tell the Nurse. She started to offer words of sympathy, but the Major interrupted her. "Who was that man?" he asked. "He was your father," she answered. No, he was not, I never saw him before in my life. Then why did you not say something when I took you to him ? I knew right away there had been a mistake, but I also knew he needed his son and his son just was not here ! In this time of Corona crisis, it is important for all of us to kkeep this moral in our hearts: "When someone needs you, just be there and stay." Let us fight this virus and win over it...

A human interest story: The on-duty Nurse took the anxious young Army Major to the bedside.

"Your son is here," she said softly, to the old man lying on the bed.

She had to repeat the words several times before the patient opened his eyes.

Heavily sedated because of the pain of his heart attack, he dimly saw the young uniformed Major standing outside the oxygen tent

He reached out his hand.

The Major wrapped his toughened fingers around the old man's fingers, squeezing a message of love and encouragement

The Nurse, observing the touching moments, brought a chair so that the Major could sit beside the bed.

Thank you madam, a polite acknowledgement followed.

All through the night, the young Major sat there in the poorly lit ward, holding the old man's hand and offering him words of love and strength. Occasionally, the Nurse suggested that the Officer rest a while.

He graciously refused.

Whenever the Nurse came into the ward, he was oblivious of her and of the night. Noises of the hospital — the clinking of the oxygen tank, the laughter of the night staff members exchanging greetings, the cries and moans of the patients...

Now and then, she heard him say a few gentle words.

The dying man said nothing, only held tightly to his son all through the night.

At dawn, the old man died, the Major released the now lifeless hand he had been holding and went to tell the Nurse.

While she did what she had to do, he waited.

Finally, she returned and started to offer words of sympathy, but the Major interrupted her.

"Who was that man?" he asked.

The Nurse was startled. "He was your father," she answered.

No, he was not, the Major replied, I never saw him before in my life.

Then why did you not say something when I took you to him ?

I knew right away there had been a mistake, but I also knew he needed his son and his son just was not here !

The Nurse listened on, confused.

When I realised that he was too sick to tell whether or not I was his son knowing how much he needed me, I stayed.

So then what was the purpose of your visit, at the hospital, Sir? the Nurse queried of him.

I came here tonight to find Mr. Vikram Salaria. His son was killed in J&K last night and I was sent to inform him.

"But the man whose hand you kept holding whole night was Mr. Vikram Salaria," the Nurse said.

They stood in complete silence; there could not be anything more comforting for a dying man than his son's hand.

Moral of this story: When someone needs you, just be there and stay.

You must be wondering why I am writing this story which has been doing the rounds on *WhatsApp* for more than a year now. Simple. Humans have a very short memory. So certain things have to be told again and again and again to ensure that they remain fresh in our minds.

To conclude, in this time of Corona crisis, it is important for all of us to keep this moral in our hearts. "When someone needs you, just be there and stay."

Mysuru relatively is better off than most of the other worst hit cities except the Nanjangud cluster. Let us fight this virus and win over it. In this time of crisis one never knows who requires help, financial or emotional. Let us be one and give it. Do you agree?

ananthballal@gmail.com

Brahmana Sangha donates Rs.2 lakh to PM CARES Fund

Mysuru District Brahmana Sangha donated Rs.2 lakh towards Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations Fund (PM CARES Fund) to fight COVID-19. Sangha President D.T. Prakash is seen handing over the cheque to District Minister V. Somanna at Government Guest House in Nazarbad yesterday in the presence of BJP Mysuru in-Charge M.V. Ravishankar, BJP City President Srivatsa, General Secretary H.G. Giridhar, former Corporator M.D. Parthasarathy, Apoorva Suresh, Brahmin youth leader Vikram Iyengar, Ajay Shastry, K.M. Nishanth and Raghu.

Painting the present reality

Mysuru Zilla Kuncha Kalavidara Sangha creates awareness on Corona

Mysuru, Apr. 2 (MTY&AM)- 'Save Your Life. Save Our Nation,' is the message a group of around 10 artists from city are trying to convey through their brush strokes.

Members of Mysuru Zilla Kuncha Kalavidara Sangha, led by artist **Mahadevu,** a resident of Gayathripuram in city and **A.S.R. Sameer,** have created artworks at Columbia Asia Hospital Junction, K.R. Circle, Chamaraja Circle, Netaji Circle (Lashkar Police Station and Post Office junction) and several other prominent places, spreading the messages on ill-effects of Coronavirus, importance of social distancing and maintaining hygiene.

Mahadevu, speaking to *Star of Mysore,* said, "We have created paintings through the whole stretch of the roads and near important junctions of the city using whatever painting materials we had at home. These art creations vary in size, with some as big as 25 feet, perhaps the biggest in the State. Since there isn't any vehicular movement of the roads in city with the lockdown in place, I am hopeful that these artworks will stay as it is for at least a month or so. We have painted at around 50 different places in the city, with the help of around 10 artists."

Mahadevu further said, "The Police personnel, doctors and nursing staff are working round-the-clock, risking their own lives. All that the Government is asking us public to do is to stay at home during this lockdown and help break the chain of the deadly virus outbreak. Can't we do at least this much?" This is one of the main reasons, we artists, tried to bring about awareness amongst public through paintings, depicting the harsh ill-effects of Corona, thereby urging the public to stay home, maintain social distancing and cooperate with the Government, Mahadevu added.

The artists who took part in this campaign are Sangha President **Mahadevu, A.S.R. Sameer, Musavir, Hakil, Wasim, Vasanth, Kumar, Asadullah Khan, Girish and Honnappa.**

Mahalakshmi Sweets Owner Shivakumar lends helping hand to hundreds

Corporator M.V. Ramprasad distributed foodgrains donated by Mahalakshmi Sweets Owner Shivakumar to residents of Medarkeri and other areas coming under MCC Ward No. 55. Also present on the occasion were KR Police Station Inspector Srinivasa, Station staff, leaders C. Sandeep, Renu, Venkatesh, Puttaswamy, Ravi, Mohan, Shivu, Advait and Shyam Sundar.

Food distribution continues

Janaspandana Trust, led by former MLA M.K. Somashekar, in association with Sri Ganapathy Sachchidananda Ashram, distributed food to the daily wagers near Chamundeshwari Temple of Nachanahallipalya in J.P. Nagar. Along with food, mask and drinking water were also distributed to thousands of people. Sri Ganapathy Sachchidananda Ashram's Prasad, former Mayor Narayan, Railway Co-operative Bank Director Chandrashekar, Bovi Community leader Paramesh, Ramu, Mahendra, Ranjan, Cable Shekar, Punith, Sunil, Vasanth Kumar, Gunashekar, Vishwa, Harish and others were present.

Instead of cooked food...

Essential Commodities' Kit distributed

Mysuru, Apr. 2- Former Mayor Sandesh Swamy and local Corporator Satvik Sandesh Swamy yesterday distributed essential commodities' kits to poor families residing in N.R. Mohalla, Ward No. 35.

A total of 300 kits, with each kit containing rice, dal, cooking oil, salt, soap and other essential commodities sufficient for a week, were distributed.

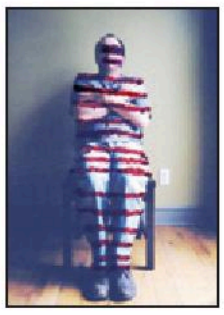
Speaking on the occasion, he said that Coronavirus which has shook the world, has put poor people and farmers in hardship. Mysuru too has a huge number of people who depend on daily wages; especially NR Constituency has more needy people, he added.

Stating that cooked food will get spoilt after some time and also the packaging of such food everyday will increase the waste accumulation, he said that they were providing kits with necessary ingredients required for a week.

BJP City President Srivatsa, leader M.V. Ravishankar, Giridhar, Bhanuprakash, Muruli, Manju C. Gowda, Srikantamurthy and others were present.

WORD OF THE DAY

Incommunicado



Pronunciation: in-kuh-myoo-nuh-KAH-doh
Meaning: Without means of communication : in a situation or state not allowing communication.
Origin: Incommunicado ultimately comes from Latin but made its way into English via the Spanish incomunicado. We borrowed the word (with a slightly modified spelling) from the past participle of the Spanish verb incomunicar, meaning "to deprive of communication." The Spanish word, in turn, derives from the Latin prefix in- and the verb communicare, meaning "to communicate."
Example: Their Government has agreed to give the Red Cross access to the prisoners who are being held incommunicado.

THE ODD WORD

Latrarchy

Government by Physicians

PHRASE OF THE DAY

In my mind's eye

Meaning: One's visual memory or imagination.
Origin & Example: The concept of us having an 'eye in our mind' is ancient and dates back to at least the 14th century, when Chaucer used it in *The Man of Law's Tale,* circa 1390. Many philosophers have considered the nature of consciousness and our ability to form images in our mind. René Descartes formed the notion that we have some sort of inner self in our mind that watches our stream of consciousness as though it were viewing a play in a theatre. Modern neuroscience discounts that idea of duality. The term probably became known through the work of Shakespeare. He uses it in the best-known of all plays - *Hamlet,* in a scene where Hamlet is recalling his father:

HAMLET: Thrift, thrift, Horatio! the funeral baked meats
Did coldly furnish forth the marriage tables.
Would I had met my dearest foe in heaven
Or ever I had seen that day, Horatio!
My father! - methinks I see my father.
HORATIO: Where, my lord?
HAMLET: In my mind's eye, Horatio.

QUOTE BOX

I adore simple pleasures. They are the last refuge of the complex.

—Oscar Wilde

RIDDLE THIS

I am in Time, and I am in Tie. I am in Fish, I am also sometimes only one. What Am I?

Answer: The letter 'I'.

SUDOKU

5			6					
					2	6	8	
				8			1	3
					8		3	4
6			5		3			2
9	3		4					
1	6			2				
	9	3	8					
					6			5

Answer to previous puzzle

4	7	2	8	3	9	6	1	5
6	3	8	7	5	1	9	4	2
5	9	1	6	4	2	3	7	8
7	6	5	2	8	4	1	3	9
2	4	9	1	7	3	8	5	6
1	8	3	9	6	5	4	2	7
3	1	7	5	9	6	2	8	4
8	2	6	4	1	7	5	9	3
9	5	4	3	2	8	7	6	1

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CROSS WORD

ACROSS:

1 Ruth's husband in the Old Testament
5 A biblical king
9 A resort with a mineral spring
12 Verdi opera
13 A decade, if you wish (3,5)
15 It may be little or grand for the bridge players?
16 Prisoner
17 "Fe" for iron, "Cu" for copper, et al.
19 Itemize or catalogue
20 Energy Design Technique, abbr.
21 Was without, wanted
23 Accompaniment to Mexican food
26 Pledge
27 Cellular letters
28 Roman 57
29 Humour
30 Spasms affecting facial muscles
31 Comics cry
32 Upper limb
33 Short, usually unaccompanied church anthem
34 Fashionably or stylishly clothed
36 The sun in Spain
37 Fast card game
38 Stress; suspense
42 Relating to the regulation of the use of food
44 Scarlett's home
45 Trigonometric function
46 Persian poet
47 Inertial Navigation Sys.
48 ___ with : trifles with?
49 Tug

DOWN

1 A type of fish or quality of sound?
2 Greasy
3 Eve's hubby
4 East African river
5 Tipped or inclined
6 Egg producers?
7 Hill-dwelling insect
8 Subordinate rule (3-3)
9 India's classical and ancient language
10 Make-believe
11 Airline-Selected Equip.
14 Clapton of music
18 Harem room
21 Destiny
22 Dare, old style English
23 A small vehicle for driving on snow
24 Hatred or unwillingness?
25 Image or similarity
26 Bustle, energy
29 Twisted or distorted
30 Russian novelist
32 Look or appearance
33 __ami: my friend, but in French?
35 Satisfy one's appetite by surfeit of food
36 Cults
38 Small or wee
39 _ __ __ person : all of us can say this? (1,2,1)
40 A port in West Algeria
41 Police informer (sl).
42 Year in St. Gregory I's papacy
43 Chinese code of behaviour

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

A	N	S	■	I	D	E	A	■	R	U	S	K
L	A	P	■	N	D	T	V	■	E	A	S	E
B	R	U	N	E	T	T	E	■	V	E	R	Y
S	C	R	U	B	■	U	R	S	A	■	■	■
■	■	■	M	R	I	■	T	A	M	A	L	E
B	A	M	B	I	N	O	■	U	P	P	E	R
A	S	O	■	A	G	A	I	N	■	S	E	A
S	H	A	F	T	■	F	I	T	T	E	S	T
H	E	B	R	E	W	■	I	E	R	■	■	■
■	■	■	O	D	I	N	■	R	O	C	H	E
F	E	E	L	■	R	E	S	I	D	U	E	S
O	M	N	I	■	E	S	P	N	■	P	M	S
D	I	S	C	■	S	T	A	G	■	S	S	E

1	2	3	4	■	5	6	7	8	■	9	10	11
12				■	13				14			
15				■	16							
17				18			■	19				■
■	■	■	20			■	21					22
23	24	25			■	26			■	27		
28				■	29			■	30			
31			■	32			■	33				
34			35			■	36			■	■	■
■	37				■	38				39	40	41
42					43			■	44			
45								■	46			
47			■	48				■	49			

CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and Words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

WMP AFWPCCPQW GV WMP IAEP AE CAZP DCLEE; AW LURAWE WMP CADMW GV MPLJPF LFU YPVCPQWE AW.

TODAY'S CLUE: W EQUALS T

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: If God lived on earth, people would break his windows.

Mysuru volunteers on a mission to help needy, provide food

EeZee Boys team also distributes protective masks, hand sanitisers and water bottles to Policemen

Mysuru, Apr. 2 (MTY&BCT)- Promising that none would sleep hungry, a number of volunteers and individuals are spot-distributing food on the streets, in front of bus stands, Railway Stations and in front of hospitals. While the lockdown period has made it easy for the rich and the elite to live a livelihood inside the confines of their homes, it has made worse for daily wage workers and the homeless.

But as promised none would die of starvation, free food distribution by EeZee Boys is being carried out right from the past few days and will continue till the lockdown ends. They have been distributing food in Government hospitals and on streets.

"We are not been funded by any organisation, it's our personal savings and our friends and family who are joining hands to do it," said **Madhumalesh.** Speaking to *Star of Mysore*, he said that a group of eight friends have pooled in their money to help the poor and the needy.

Along with Madhumalesh, **Keerthi, Biju, Kishore, Avinash, Pranav, Ganesh** and **Roopak** are joining hands. Now the word of distribution has spread and more people are contributing to the noble cause.

Every day they are distributing over 300 food packets to the homeless across the city and are also helping duty-bound Policemen to find a meal in the absence of hotels and restaurants. Along food, water is also being distributed and Policemen are being given 250 ml hand sanitisers, sponsored by Sree Ganesh Chemicals.

Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) like three-layered masks (2,500 in number), 250 ml sanitisers (400 bottles) were also distributed by EeZee Boys and boxes of the essentials were handed over to Deputy Commissioner of Police (Law and Order) Dr. A.N. Prakash Gowda to be distributed among Police personnel.

"MRT-21 has donated Rs. 40,000 and per day expenses touch Rs. 4,000. We prepare food in a hygienic manner with cooks wearing protection gloves and aprons and even our distribution system is clean and sanitised," he added.

Food including Ghee Rice, Chitranna, Rice Bath and other varieties are being cooked at Oye Punjabi Restaurant in Hebbal and is packed along with water bottles," he added.

Round Table India launches crowd-funding initiative to help healthcare staff, Police

It is a student-driven campaign to combat COVID-19

Mysuru, Apr. 2 (BCT)- Healthcare staff including doctors, nurses, Class 4 workers and the Police in Mysuru need Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) as they are on the frontline in containing the deadly COVID-19.

Healthcare workers involved in the direct care of patients should use PPEs like gowns, gloves, medical mask and eye protection (goggles or face shield). Specifically, for aerosol-generating procedures (for example, tracheal intubation, tracheostomy and bronchoscopy) healthcare workers should use respirators, eye protection, gloves and gowns. Aprons should also be used if gowns are not fluid-resistant.

Considering the dire need of PPEs and other self-protecting equipment in Mysuru, **Round Table India (Mysuru Chapter),** with all its four Tables in city, has come forward to raise funds through crowd-funding for the procurement of essential equipment for the safety of frontline warriors in their fight against this pandemic. They will be donated based on the needs of the Police and healthcare workers in Mysuru.

According to spokespersons from Round Table India (RTI), any contribution can go a long way in flattening the curve and reduce the probability of further infections.

"Every day over 10,000 Police personnel and countless other healthcare workers risk their lives to keep us safe. We are raising funds to give them the equipment that they need to keep themselves out of harm's way. We urge to make a donation no matter how small as it could save someone's life. Someone who is at the forefront of the battle of keeping us safe," they say.

The crowd-funding initiative has been put into practicality by a group of 12th Standard from **National Public School of India (NPSI), Mysuru** and they have created a blog to promote the crowd-funding platform. They are **Nageshwar Venkatesh, Sanjana R. Kashyap, Janak Sunil, Aadya** and **Chandni.** The crowdfunding link can be accessed at: **https://www.impactguru.com/fundraiser/help-round-table-india-1**

"All our classes at school have been suspended for a little over two weeks now. With all this free time on our hands, we have seen in the media how distraught people are and how overworked the healthcare workers, sanitation workers and the Policemen are. As we sit at home, we realised that we must do something for the community instead of sitting idle and creating a crowd-funding platform sounded perfect," the students told *Star of Mysore.*

Good response
for home delivery of fruits and vegetables

Mysuru, Apr.2 (RKB&DM)- 'Mane-Manege Hannu Haagu Tarakari', an initiative undertaken jointly by the MCC and the Horticulture Department for home delivery of vegetables and fruits, drew good response from the citizens today. The initiative, that covers all 65 wards of the MCC, was launched by District-In charge Minister V. Somanna yesterday.

Today, the MCC undertook home delivery of fruits and vegetables at several localities including Dattagalli,Tilaknagar, Hebbal, JSS Layout, J.P.Nagar, Yadavagiri, Bannimantap, Siddartha Layout, Gokulam, Gangothri Layout and Kyathamaranahalli.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore,* MCC's City Planning Officer Jaisimha, who is in-charge of the initiative, said that eight vehicles were deployed today. All the vehicles will be loaded at the HOPCOMS outlet in Curzon Park premises, adjacent to the City Bus stand, from where they will travel on designated routes.

The MCC is delivering fresh fruits and vegetables to the people at reasonable prices at the safety of their homes, he said. Noting that most people were taken unawares by the MCC's home delivery move, he said that from tomorrow, announcement will be made through a public address system even as the vehicle passes through a locality.

Meanwhile, all the 68 HOPCOMS outlets in the city will function as usual and people can buy fruits and vegetables as per their requirement by maintaining social distance while standing in queues.

MDJA donates Rs. 1 lakh to CM's Relief Fund

Mysuru District Journalists' Association (MDJA) donated Rs. 1 lakh to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund this morning. Picture shows MDJA President C.K. Mahendra and General Secretary Lokesh Babu handing over the cheque to District Minister V. Somanna during his visit to the Youth Hostel. City BJP President Srivatsa, Journalists M.T. Yogesh Kumar, Raghavendra and others were present.

Rama Navami celebrated indoors in city

Mysuru, Apr.2 (PM&DM)- The usual splendour and fervour attached to Rama Navami celebrations in the city was wholly missing today as people confined the celebration to their homes due to the nationwide COVID-19 lockdown enforced by the Government to stop the spread of the deadly pandemic.

There was no distribution of *Panaka, Kosambari*, Butter Milk and *Prasada* to the members of the public, which was a usual sight on major streets of the city this day in previous years.

However, Rama Mandirs in city, including the ones at Shivarampet and Krishnamurthypuram, opened for a brief period this morning, during which priests performed simple rituals marking Rama Navami, it is learnt.

Rama Navami is a Hindu festival celebrating the birthday of Lord Rama. The festival marks the descent of Vishnu as Sri Rama avatar, through his birth to King Dasharatha and Queen Kausalya in Ayodhya. The day is celebrated by *Rama Katha* recitals or reading of Rama stories including the sacred epic Ramayana. However, due to the lockdown, no *Ramajapas* were held in the city. Fruits and flower vendors who used to do good business on this day in the past years, were a disappointed lot, as there were hardly a few buyers. Also, a majority of vendors who used to sell fruits and flowers along major roads were missing today due to lockdown.

STAR OF MYSORE

EMERGENCY AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES HELPLINE

Grocery Delivery

Loyal World
M: 91699-94422
M: 99802-00466

Mohan Bhandar
: 96062-33244
: 96062-33433
Ph: 0821-2442190

A 2 Z Supermarket
Ph: 0821-2547902
M: 94805-59879

U Mart Supermarket
M: 96820-00333
M: 95265-73219

More Mega Store
N.S. Road
M: 81519-16000

More Supermarket
Kalidasa Road
M: 97418-12959

Sri Vasavamba Stores,
M: 98447-95604
M: 98448-20833

Food Delivery

Hotel Siddharta, Nazarbad
M: 98802-32055

Indra's Sweet n Spice, Kalidasa Road
M: 99008-55447

Vishnu Bhavan, Shakthinagar
M: 90192-09020

Deliverfood2me.in, Yadavagiri
M: 96209-00000
Visit: deliverfood2me.in

Rasooi Magic, Kalidasa Road
Ph: 0821-4252228
M: 99688-15150

Crumbs (King's Kourt), JLB Road
M: 96202-02525

Om Shanthi (Hotel Siddharta), South Indian
Ph: 0821-2522888
M: 78990-88444

Gonguras Restaurant, MG Road
M: 99800-60129

Bombay Tiffanys Annexe, DD Urs Road
M: 98451-27511

Pharmacies

Raghulal & Co., Sayyaji Rao Road
Mob: 98451-07907

Sri Kumar Medicals, Kuvempunagar
M: 97418-80668

Kumar Medicals, Kuvempunagar
M: 94487-74372

Sri Murugan Medicals, Saraswathipuram
M: 99456-60084

Shreyas Medicals, Hebbal
M: 99006-29306

Adri Health Mart, Dattagalli
M: 99802-53762

Srinivasa Medicals, Shivarampet
M: 99458-04995

Venkateshwara Medicals, DD Urs Road
M: 98866-99552

Vasavi Medicals, 100 ft Road
M: 98451-14922

Aditya Medicals, Vijayanagar
M: 90088-03251

Hospitals

Apollo BGS Hospital, Kuvempunagar
Ph: 0821-2566666
0821-2568888

Columbia Asia Bengaluru -Mysuru Road, Mysuru
Ph : 0821-2555000

Narayana Multispeciality Hospital, Devanur Ring Road
M: 95380-52378

Jayadeva Hospital KRS Road, Kumbarakoppal, Mysuru
Ph : 0821-2336000
Ph : 0821-2421500

Clearmedi Radiant Hospital, Vijayanagar 3rd Stage
Ph: 0821-2336666

JSS Hospital, M.G. Road
M: 99804-43489

Brindavan Hospital, Jayalakshmipuram
Ph: 0821-4000782
0821-6626666

Suyog Hospital, Ramakrishnanagar
Ph: 0821-2533600
M: 97395-55908

Ambulance: 108 | B.G.S Apollo Hospital : 2568888
Chandrakala Hospital : 4288639 | Gopala Gowda Hospital : 2445037
Holdsworth Memorial Hospital : 2420102 | Kamakshi Hospital : 2545981

COVID-19 Helpline Numbers: 1077 or 0821-2423800

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